



MAIN LIBRARY EXPANSION PROJECT

Project Office at 449 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02138

Neighborhood and Joan Lorentz Park Users notice

The library expansion project is in its final months, and the time has come to focus upon the planned improvements to the grounds of the Joan Lorentz Park.

During the next three weeks, the site and landscaping contractors will expand their scope of work to include that easterly portion of the Park which has remained available for public use during the construction activities thus far.

We are planning to open the new Tot-Lot and some portion of the Park that is in front of the historic library early this summer, after plantings and irrigation lines are placed, and the area's amended soil is covered with sod. The overall work of the project will continue through the summer months with its completion scheduled for roughly the beginning of September. The site-work itself, the earth removal, manufactured soil replacement, placement of irrigation lines, grading, planting, and finishing will continue through the spring and summer months. That work will be done concurrently as the library's interior work is completed: the new shelving is placed; books are relocated from the Longfellow School; signage, new telephones, computer systems, furniture and equipment are installed; and, the library staff begins its re-organizational operations processing.

The landscaping and site-work of the newly fenced easterly portion of the Joan Lorentz Park (that area which up until now had been accessible to the public) will involve:

- ..modifying the currently fenced-in 'limit of work' (in order to maintain the security of the on-going construction activities within the library site);
- ..stripping the unsuitable existing soil and loam from the park;
- ..removing the trailers, the fractionalization tank, and other equipment as appropriate;
- ..rough grading, placement of the new irrigation system piping, 'amending' the soil; and then finishing the seeding, planting, hardscaping, and landscaping of the site.

Our current plan is to keep the newly seeded, (that eastern lawn portion) fenced from public use – principally from the impact of canine waste – through the summer and fall growing seasons until April of 2010.

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